THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of : Sotaro ODA, et al.

Filed : Concurrently herewith

5 For : LAN SWITCHING METHOD AND LAN SWITCH

Serial No. : Concurrently herewith

Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

10 July 8, 2003

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

15 SIR:

Prior to the issuance of an Office Action, please amend the specification as follows: